

work. It's hard work to defeat terrorists, killers that wanted to achieve their objective. But we'll succeed; we'll prevail.

I want our troops to understand that not only does the country support them, but we'll—we'll win. It's in our national interests that we win. And we will. We've got some powerful, powerful weapons on our side. We've got the men and women who wear the uniform, people who bring such dignity and honor and bring compassion to people who have been suffering under tyranny and are now wondering whether or not the future is bright for them. And we've got freedom on our side too, and freedom is a powerful weapon. People want to be free.

And again, I want to thank you all for your service. I want to thank your families. I wish they were here so I could thank them in person. But your sacrifice has meant a lot. Congratulations for stepping up and volunteering and being a part of history. Thanks for giving me a chance to visit and have a little lunch with you. God bless you all.

Secretary Rice's Upcoming Visit to the Middle East

Q. Mr. President, what do you hope Secretary Rice accomplishes on her trip to the Middle East, sir?

The President. I'm going to talk to her tomorrow when I—Sunday, when I get back to the White House. We're going to have a good visit.

Q. What do you hope she accomplishes, sir?

The President. I said I would talk to her tomorrow.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:35 a.m. at Tamale Fiesta Kitchen. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on Senate Action on the "Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006"

July 21, 2006

I applaud Members of the United States Senate for voting to strengthen our laws against convicted sex offenders.

The Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 will ensure appropriate

sentencing for sex offenders and will provide local law enforcement officials with the tools they need to track those who prey upon children. By supporting this legislation, the Senate has taken an important step towards providing our country with a strict, uniform system for monitoring sex offenders to ensure that they do not commit additional crimes against our Nation's children.

I urge the House of Representatives to pass this good legislation as quickly as possible, so that I can sign it into law.

NOTE: The statement referred to H.R. 4472.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

July 15

In the morning, in Strelna, Russia, the President had an intelligence briefing.

In the afternoon, at the Konstantinovskiy Palace Complex, the President had a working lunch with President Vladimir Putin of Russia.

In the evening, the President traveled to Petrodvorets, Russia, where, at the Peterhof, he attended a G-8 summit social dinner and entertainment. Later, he returned to Strelna.

July 16

In the morning, at the Konstantinovskiy Palace Complex, the President participated in G-8 summit meetings. He then met with Junior 8 student leaders.

In the afternoon, the President had a working lunch with G-8 leaders. Later, he participated in G-8 summit meetings.

In the evening, the President had a working dinner with G-8 leaders.

July 17

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, at the